

The news—briefly

Forecast of Soviet oil lag done by CIA is criticized

Washington

A congressional study has criticized the CIA's projection of Soviet oil supplies as being unduly pessimistic. In their report, Soviet energy policy specialists — led by John Hardt, senior specialist in Soviet economics at the Library of Congress — took aim at a newly revised CIA estimate that the Soviet Union would move from an oil exporter to an oil importer by 1990.

The study noted that the Economic Commission for Europe felt production would stay constant or increase to 14 million barrels a day by 1990.